

§ 656.6

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(f) The limitations imposed by this regulation on off-road travel by ORV's do not apply to official use. It is Army policy to minimize environmental degradation of sensitive portions of facility sites which play a significant ecosystem support role.

§ 656.6 Responsibilities.

Commanders of Army installations and activities in the United States will:

(a) Develop policy and procedures prescribing operating conditions for ORV's which are designed to protect resource values, preserve public health, safety and welfare, and minimize use conflicts. These procedures will include as a minimum:

(1) Registration—ORV's used both on and off the traffic way will be registered in accordance with AR 190-5 and AR 190-5-1. ORV's operated solely off the traffic way may be registered at the discretion of the installation commander.

(2) Fees—Installation commanders are authorized to impose appropriate fees and charges for ORV activities in accordance with AR 28-1, as an element of the Outdoor Recreation Program. Such fees and charges are accounted for as income to nonappropriated funds in accordance with AR 230-65.

(b) Ensure that lands where off-road vehicle use will be permitted are designated in the natural resources management plan and where appropriate include as a part of the installation's master plan (AR 210-20 and AR 420-74).

(c) Provide opportunities for users to participate in the selection and designation of suitable sites and distribute information which identifies authorized sites and describes the conditions of use. Organized recreational activities involving off-road vehicles are within the scope of the Outdoor Recreation Program of Army Recreation Services and should be so established.

(d) Post appropriate signs at authorized areas and trails.

(e) Provide for the administration, enforcement, and policing of trails and areas to ensure that conditions of use are met on a continuing basis.

(f) Establish appropriate procedures to monitor the effects of the use of ORV's and provide for maintenance of

the ORV areas of trails. This monitoring will be the basis for changes to installation policy to ensure adequate control of ORV use, amendment of area and trail designations, or conditions of use which are necessary to protect the environment, insure the public safety, and minimize conflict among users.

(g) Negotiate cooperative agreements, when appropriate, with State or local governments for the enforcement of laws and regulations relating to ORV use.

(h) Coordinate ORV use, projects, activities, designated ORV areas, and all related matters, with the installation environmental committee and environmental office.

§ 656.7 Environmental considerations.

The environmental and related impacts of ORV use will be assessed in accordance with AR 200-1. Coordination with adjacent private and public landowners and managers will be included in the assessment process.

§ 656.8 Guidelines and criteria for evaluation and utilization of Army lands for off-road vehicle use.

(a) *Designation.* (1) Army lands may be designated for one or more types of ORV use in response to a demonstrated need providing there is sufficient suitable area available.

(2) Lands which may not be designated for one or more types of ORV use are:

(i) Areas restricted for security or safety purposes, such as explosive ordnance impact areas.

(ii) Areas containing geological and soil conditions, flora or fauna or other natural characteristics of fragile or unique nature which would be subject to excessive or irreversible damage by use of ORV's

(iii) Areas where the use by a type or types of ORV would cause unequivocal and irreversible damage or destruction as a result of such use; provided, however, that types of ORV not causing such damage or destruction may be permitted to use such areas.

(iv) Areas which are key fish and wildlife habitat as identified under environmental considerations § 656.8(c) (5) of this part.